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Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association
Statement on Activities in Support of UNICEF

The purpose of Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association is "to strengthen the bonds of peace by promoting better understanding and friendship among women of all Pacific and Southeast Asia areas, and to promote cooperation among women of these regions for the study and improvement of social conditions."

At our next international Conference to be held in Japan, in the spring of 1958, the subject for discussion will be "Food in all its Aspects". Special emphasis will be given to nutrition. Through an exchange of information on food problems in each of our countries, all members will benefit by the experience of their neighbors. The accomplishment of UNICEF in the field of nutrition will be used extensively in order to urge more varied diets, more effective use of the food available in respective countries, and the importance of balanced meals where possible as well as scientific feeding.

We note from replies to our questionnaires that there is an increase in the assistance given UNICEF by the women in Southeast Asia. Now that they have become more familiar with what UNICEF does for them and are more aware of what they in turn can do to help, they are participating in spreading information about UNICEF, in working in greater numbers at the Child Welfare Centres, and in encouraging their more timid country women to have complete confidence in the advice and directives of the UNICEF personnel.

Among some of the reports we have received is one from Ceylon which considers the Environmental Sanitation Project at Kurunegala, the Health Education Project, and the Skim Milk Program, three of the outstanding contributions of UNICEF. "The women of Ceylon can never be too grateful for the excellent and unobtrusive work of UNICEF in bettering the health of the underprivileged children whose numbers are so great in our Island."

From Japan we learn that the children in primary and secondary schools are each giving a 10 yen contribution to be sent "to East Asia for uncared for children."

From New Zealand we learn of the help UNICEF is giving to Western Samoa in a campaign against yaws.

To countries that are struggling with poverty and disease and their attendant problems: malnutrition, infant mortality, and death at childbirth; UNICEF brings the help and hope that are deeply appreciated.